(d) the steps proposed by Government to check the nefarious designs of SIMI activists across the country?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No Sir, However, SIMI's activists are active in a number of States of the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The SIMI has been declared as an unlawful association on 7th February, 2008. Appropriate action has been taken by the various State Government against the activists of concerned organizations.

**Federal Investigative Agency**

3177. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to crack down on terror networks and curb increasing Naxal violence through a coordinated nationwide onslaught, Prime Minister has decided to aggressively push for the concept of the federal investigative agency with Chief Ministers of all States in a recently convened meeting;

(b) if so, what was the outcome of the meeting;

(c) whether any central body to combat terror in the country has been considered by the Chief Ministers; and

(d) if so, what is the final decision taken and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The issue of putting a mechanism in place to enable investigation of certain types of terrorism related and other offences having inter-State and international linkages by a Central agency has been under consideration and discussion with the State Governments for some time. This issue was also discussed in the Meeting of Chief Ministers on Internal Security held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 20th December, 2007, in which *inter-alia,* the setting up of a Consultative Mechanism to decide, on a case to case basis, whether investigations may be taken up by a Central agency, and have collaborative arrangements in the framework of a concurrent jurisdication, was suggested. It was, decided that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) would seek the comments of the State Governments in the matter. Accordingly, the MHA has written to all the States seeking their comments, so that a consensus could be developed in the matter. It has, *inter alia,* been clarified that the proposed mechanism envisages close coordination between all the Central and State agencies.

**Cases of bomb blasts**

†3178. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public places where there were bomb explosions between monsoon and budget sessions of Parliament and the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether his Ministry had prior information about these blasts;

(c) if so, why the security arrangement were not made in time;

(d) if not, the persons responsible for this failure; and

(e) the security arrangements under consideration for the religious places as in the name of sansctity of the complexes, the entry of security personnel in these complexes is restricted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) As per available information, following major terrorist incidents/bomb blasts have taken place in the hinterland from 11.09.2007 to 24.02.2008:—

| Sl. No. | Incident | Persons killed | Persons injured |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Blast at Ajmer Sharif, Ajmer, Rajasthan on 11.10.2007 | 3 | 14 |
| 2 | Bomb blast at Shingar Cinema Hall in Ludhiana on 14.10.2007 | 6 | 38 |
| 3 | Serial bomb blasts in court premises in U.P. on 23.11.2007 | 13 | 80 |
| 4 | Attack on CRPF Group Centre, Rampur, U.P. on 1.1.2008 | 8 | 5 |

The estimate of loss of property in these incidents is not centrally maintained.

Inputs regarding possible threats from terrorist elements are shared by the Central security and intelligence agencies with the State Police authorities from time to time, however, it may not be possible to have specific prior input for every terrorist incident Security arrangements of religious places are in the domain of the State Governments. The Central Government assists the State Governments whenever required

**FDI on Cable TV and HITS**

3179. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether Govenment decided to allow 74 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Cable TV service and Head-end in the Sky (HITS)— satellite based system in distributing TV signal *via* cable, while also permitting 100 per cent FDI in down linking of general and entertainment channels up-linked from abroad,

(b) whether all the concerned *i e* Teleceom, Information and Boardcasting and Foreign Investment Promotion Board and the Department of Industrial Policy land Promotion have met and discussed the proposals to arise the FDI on Cable TV and HITS; and

(c) by when a final dicision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The Government has dicided to seek the recommendations of Telecome Regulatory Authority (TRAI) on the existing foreign investment limits for various segments of broadcasting sector, that may be retained or revised including HITS, and the Cable TV service TRAI earlier in its recommendations dated 17.10.2007 recommended Foreign